

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Replace FIGS. 2, 6, and 8 with the replacement sheets including amended FIGS. 2, 6, and 8 attached to this communication. FIG. 2 has been amended to add numeral 32. FIG. 6 has been amended to change one of the numeral 66's to a 68. FIG. 8 has been amended to change one of the numeral 92's to a 91. Annotated sheets indicating the changes in red ink are also enclosed. No new matter has been added.

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 5-6, 9-10, and 22 have been amended. Claims 3-4 have been canceled. Figs. 2, 6, and 8 have been amended and replacement sheets and annotated sheets are attached. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings because they do not include several reference signs. Applicants have amended Figs. 2, 6, and 8 to add in the noted missing reference signs.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the Abstract and the specification. Applicants have amended the Abstract and the specification to address these objections.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to Claims 3, 11, 13, and 22 for informalities.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 and 22 to address the informalities.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected Claim 1-3, 11, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 698,242 ("Baker").

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4. Baker does not disclose the subject matter of Claim 4, therefore amended independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claim 1-5, 10, 13, and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,415,503 ("Strange").

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4. Strange does not disclose a pillar drilling machine comprising a drill head which is supported on a pillar, and a base for supporting said pillar, as well as a power supply strand leading to said drill head, wherein an accommodation chamber is provided, which extends substantially longitudinally in the interior of said pillar, said power supply strand being arranged, at least sectionwise, in said accommodation chamber such that it extends substantially longitudinally,

wherein in an area in which the pillar is mounted on the base and/or in an area in which the drill head is mounted on the pillar, a respective connectable separation point of the power supply strand is provided, and wherein the separation point is implemented as a releasable electrical plug connection.

Rather, Strange discloses a drilling machine having a housing 14 serving as a pillar. A power control cord 50 extends through an internal chamber 18 of the housing 14 to a drive motor 36 mounted to the housing 14 as illustrated in Fig. 1. The power cable connecting means 52 and the electrical fitting 64 seem to be nothing more than fixing aids for holding the power control cord 50 in a certain position within the respective cavities. For this reason, the electrical fitting 64 and the power cable connecting means 52 comprise two ring-like radially extending profiles. The ring-like profiles of the electrical fitting 64 is engaged with corresponding horizontal holding profiles of the housing of the drive motor 36 as shown in Fig. 1. This is a precautionary measure and prevents the section of the power control cord between drive motor 36 and electrical fitting 64 from being subjected to tension. The power control cord 50 between electrical fitting 64 and power cable connecting means 52 can be subjected to tension if the drive motor is moved too much upwardly, or if too much of the power control cord 50 slides into the internal chamber 18 during a downward movement of the drive motor 36 and does not sufficiently slide back during an upward movement of the drive motor 36 thereafter due to clamping in the opening 54 of the housing.

The power cable connecting means 52 protect the section of the power control cord 50 between power cable connecting means 52 and an electric control panel 20 in the same manner from being subjected to tension. The ring-like profiles of the power cable connecting means 52 are positioned on both sides of a corresponding counter profile of the housing 14 being shown as a line behind the power cable connecting means 52 and between its ring-like profiles in Fig. 1. Therefore, the vertical movement of the power cable connecting means 52 is restricted according to the distance between its ring-like profiles.

Moreover, the electrical fitting 64 and the power cable connecting means 52 are provided in chambers which are not accessible from the outside. Therefore, if the electrical fitting 64 and the power cable connecting means 52 became disconnected, the housing would have to be disassembled providing inconvenience to the user.

For at least these reasons, Strange does not teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claim 1-2, 11, 15, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,345,318 ("Bakewell").

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4. Bakewell does not disclose the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4, therefore amended independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claim 1-2, 11, and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,706,824 ("Schatz").

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4. Schatz does not disclose the subject matter of Claims 3 and 4, therefore amended independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bakewell in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,351,379 ("Wehringer").

Claim 12 depends from Claim 1, and is allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable. As noted above, Bakewell does not disclose the subject matter of Claim 1. Wehringer does not cure the deficiencies of Claim 1. Wehringer does not disclose a pillar drilling machine comprising a drill head which is supported on a pillar, and a base for supporting said pillar, as well as a power supply strand leading to said drill head, wherein an accommodation chamber is provided, which extends substantially longitudinally in the interior of said pillar, said power supply strand being arranged, at least sectionwise, in said accommodation chamber such that it extends substantially longitudinally, wherein in an area in which the pillar is mounted on the base and/or in an area in which the drill head is mounted on the pillar, a respective connectable separation point of the power supply strand is provided, and wherein the separation point is implemented as a releasable electrical plug connection.

Rather, Wehringer discloses take-up means having a spool-like body for storing a cord.

For at least these reasons, Bakewell and Wehringer do not teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Schatz in view of Wehringer.

Claim 12 depends from Claim 1, and is allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable. As noted above, Schatz does not disclose the subject matter of Claim 1. Wehringer does not cure the deficiencies of Claim 1. Wehringer does not disclose a pillar drilling machine comprising a drill head which is supported on a pillar, and a base for supporting said pillar, as well as a power supply strand leading to said drill head, wherein an accommodation chamber is provided, which extends substantially longitudinally in the interior of said pillar, said power supply strand being arranged, at least sectionwise, in said accommodation chamber such that it extends substantially longitudinally, wherein in an area in which the pillar is mounted on the base and/or in an area in which the drill head is mounted on the pillar, a respective connectable separation point of the power supply strand is provided, and wherein the separation point is implemented as a releasable electrical plug connection.

Rather, Wehringer discloses take-up means having a spool-like body for storing a cord.

For at least these reasons, Schatz and Wehringer do not teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner rejected Claims 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bakewell in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,118,141 ("Spohn").

Claims 21-24 depend from Claim 1, and are allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable. As noted above, Bakewell does not disclose the subject matter of Claim 1. Spohn does not cure the deficiencies of Claim 1. Wehringer does not disclose a pillar drilling machine comprising a drill head which is supported on a pillar, and a base for supporting said pillar, as well as a power supply strand leading to said drill head, wherein an accommodation chamber is provided, which extends substantially longitudinally in the interior of said pillar, said power supply strand being arranged, at least sectionwise, in said accommodation chamber such that it extends substantially longitudinally, wherein in an area in which the pillar is mounted on the base and/or in an area in which the drill head is mounted on the pillar, a respective connectable separation point of the power supply strand is provided, and wherein the separation point is implemented as a releasable electrical plug connection.

Rather, Wehringer discloses take-up means having a spool-like body for storing a cord.

For at least these reasons, Bakewell and Wehringer do not teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-25 depend from Claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons Claim 1 is allowable.

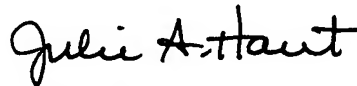
Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 6-9, 17, 19-20, and 25 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment and allowance of Claims 1-2 and 5-25 is respectfully requested. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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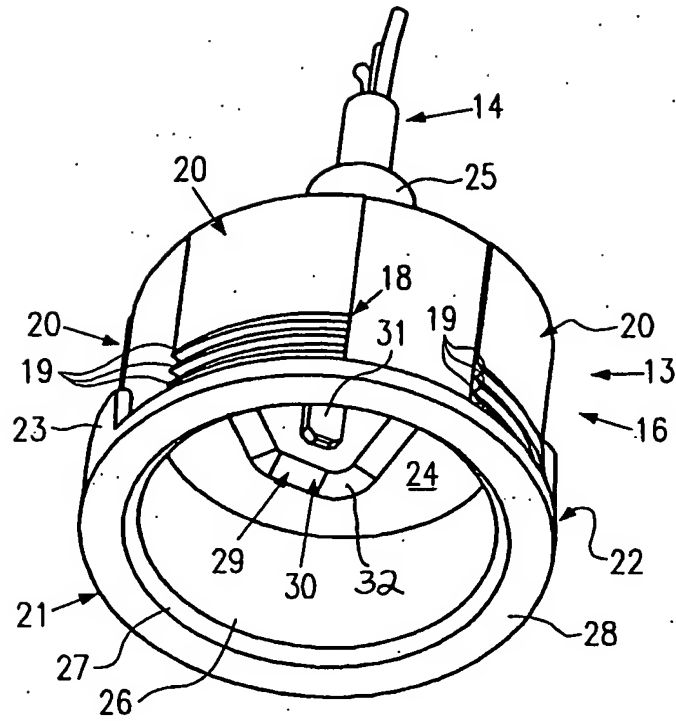


Fig.2

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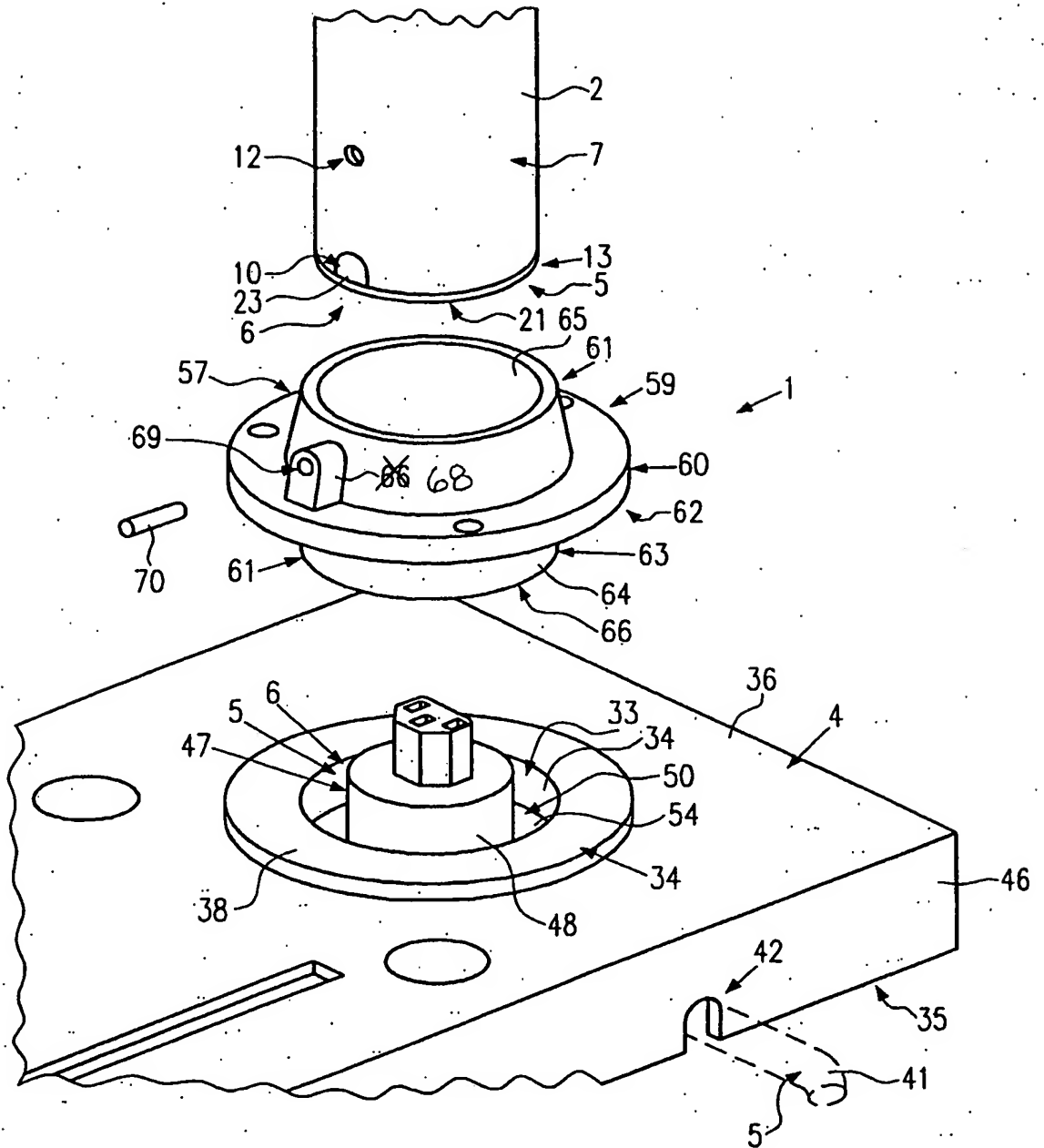


Fig.6

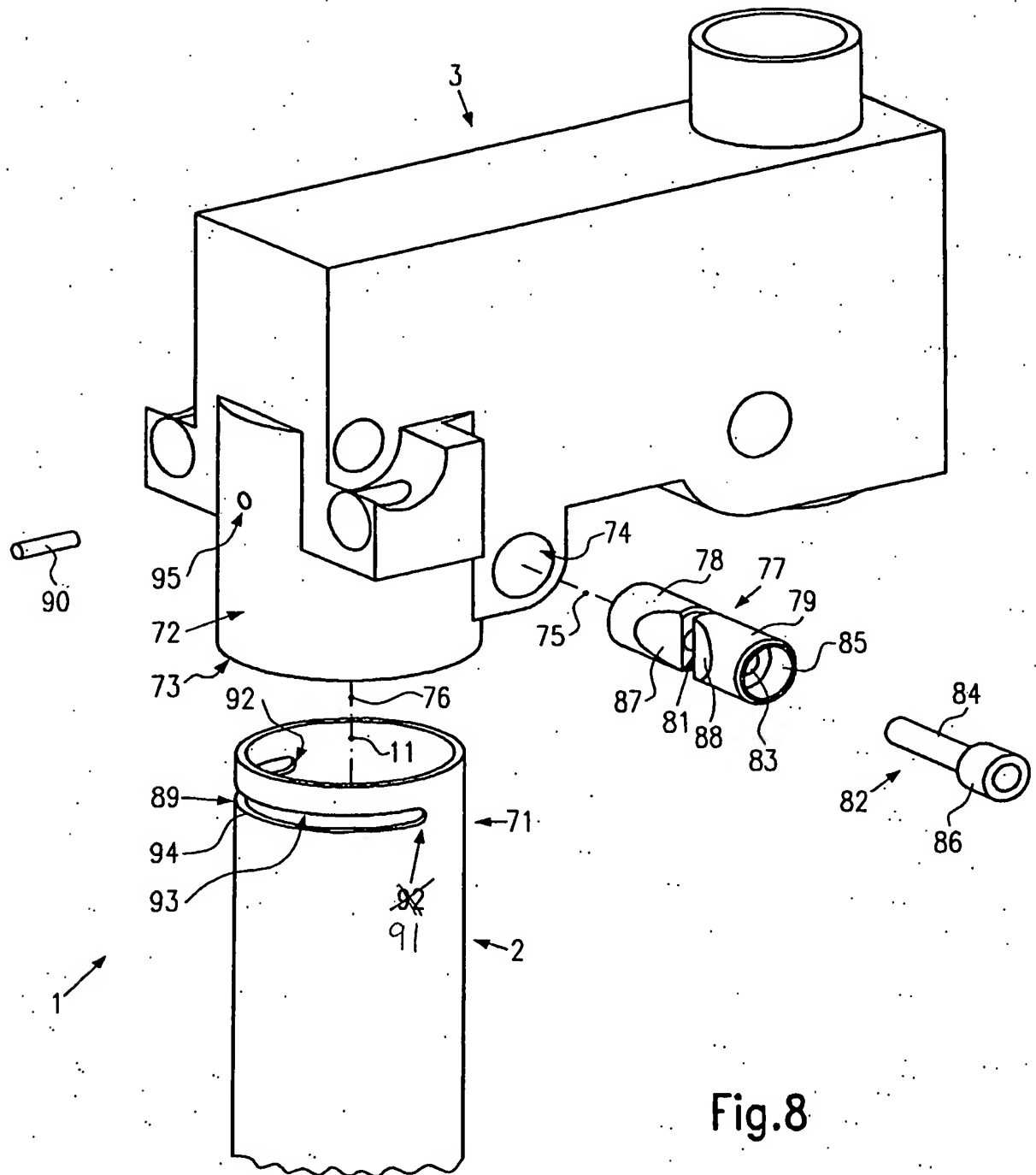


Fig.8